several Inspecting Officers, and the Inspector-General of Registration having inspected twenty-four Sub-Registry Offices against only two in the previous year. All the District Registry Offices except the one at Hassan were inspected by the Inspector-General during the year.

7. The Inspector-General of Registration is requested to address the Government separately on the revision of the pay and prospects of the clerks of the District Registrar's Offices referred to in the last paragraph of his report.

B. NAGAPPA,
Secretary to Government,
Local and Legislative Departments.

Merchandise Marks Regulation.

READ—

Reports from District Magistrates of Districts on the result of the inspection of piece goods with respect to the working of the Merchandise Marks Regulation and the rules thereunder during the year 1923-24.

ORDER No. P. 3030-37—LEGIS. 5-24-9, DATED 12TH DECEMBER 1924.

Recorded.

2. During the year under report, 239 shops were inspected and 532 pieces examined. In the course of examination, the trade description on the goods was found to exceed the actual length by more than the variations allowed under the rules only in 29 cases.

3. There were no prosecutions under the Regulation during the year under report.

B. NAGAPPA,
Secretary to Government,
Local and Legislative Departments.

REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Decentralization of Powers.

READ—

Government Order No. 1812-21—Muz. 332-22-10, dated the 14th June 1924, appointing a mixed Committee of Officials and non-officials with the Muzrai Commissioner as Chairman to consider and report upon (1) the formation of Taluk and District Committees, (2) the further decentralization of the powers and duties of the Muzrai Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioners, and (3) the revision of the present rules defining the powers and duties of the Dharmadarsis.

2. Letter No. C. 1211 of 1923-24, dated the 22nd September 1924, from the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore, forwarding the Resolutions of the Committee (printed as annexure) with his own views thereon.

ORDER No. 770-81—MUZ. 80-24-2, DATED 28TH NOVEMBER 1924.

Government in their Order No. 1812-21—Muz. 332-22-10, dated the 14th June 1924, referred the undermentioned questions to the Committee for consideration:—

1. The formation of District and Taluk Committees to help local Muzrai Officers in the administration of Muzrai Institutions in their charge.

2. The decentralization of powers to the Muzrai Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioners.

3. Revision of the rules regarding powers and duties of Dharmadarsis.

2. As regards the formation of District and Taluk Committees, the Committee observe that having regard to the complexity and divergencies of creeds and persuasions that will have to be represented in these Committees if all the Muzrai Institutions in a Taluk or District are to be placed under their control and the difficulty of drawing up elaborate rules, the appointment of such Committees is not desirable, especially as an advisory body of Dharmadarsis is appointed for each institution or group of institutions of any importance. The Committee add that, if Committees are to be appointed, only District Committees should be constituted on which representation should be given to interests and not to institutions and that Mathas and Makhans

should be exempted from the purview of the Committees. Government after carefully considering the whole question are in agreement with the Committee that the constitution of District and Taluk Committees is undesirable and need not be undertaken for the present.

3. In regard to the revision of the powers and duties of Dharmadarsis, the Committee consider that as the existing rules are working satisfactorily, no material alterations thereof are necessary. They, however, recommend the following minor changes in the Rules to remedy some of the existing defects:—

1. As orders on the recommendations of the Dharmadarsis are sometimes delayed by the Local Officers, Rule IX of the 'A' set of rules framed under Section 15 of the Muzrai Regulation may be modified so as to provide for the unanimous opinion of the Dharmadarsis being ordinarily given effect to in all matters of routine relating to the internal management of the institution, and for a time limit being fixed for the Amildar sending up the resolutions of the Dharmadarsis and obtaining orders thereon in cases in which he disagrees with the resolutions.
2. If a Dharmadarsi furnishes security to the extent of 1½ times the value of jewels belonging to a minor or village institution, jewels of the maximum value of Rs. 2,000 may be left in his custody for use on prescribed occasions, thus obviating the necessity of depositing the jewels in the Taluk Treasury and conveying them to the institution on hetchukatle and other occasions.
3. If an archak or other temple servant goes away without appointing a substitute, the Dharmadarsis may make temporary arrangements in consonance with the usage of the temple concerned and pending orders regarding his successor.
4. If a person has done much for an institution, minor or village, and continues to interest himself in its welfare he may be appointed sole Dharmadarsi by the Muzrai Commissioner.
5. In the case of "minor Institutions" the Amildar may be empowered to sanction, if the Dharmadarsis approve, and draw bills up to Rs. 50 in each case, of unsanctioned items of expenditure, intimation thereof being given to the Deputy Commissioner immediately and the expenditure regularized within one month.

The recommendations of the Committee are sanctioned.

3. As regards the revision of the powers and duties of the Muzrai Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioners with a view to further decentralization, the Committee consider that as Government Order No. 1332-63—Muz. 63-22-9, dated the 25th September 1922, defining the powers and duties of the Muzrai Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioners is recent and as no difficulty has been felt in its practical working, no modifications are now necessary, except that the Revenue Sub-Division Officers may be recognised as Muzrai Officers in their respective jurisdictions under the provisions of the Muzrai Regulation, and orders passed by them made appealable to the Deputy Commissioner, and that the Muzrai Commissioner's authority to hear appeals against the orders of Deputy Commissioners in cases coming within the purview of the Muzrai Regulation may be recognised. Government approve of the suggestion that the Sub-Division Officer may be invested with all the powers of a Muzrai Officer in the Taluks comprised in his charge. The Deputy Commissioners of Districts are accordingly requested to delegate these powers to the Sub-Division Officers under Section 2 (2) of the Muzrai Regulation. As regards the proposals of the Committee to empower the Muzrai Commissioner to hear appeals from Deputy Commissioners, provision has already been made in the Muzrai Amendment Bill now before Government.

4. The Muzrai Commissioner is requested to convey the thanks of Government to the Members of the Committee for the valuable suggestions given by them. The non-official Members of the Committee will be paid travelling allowance for journeys performed by them for attending the meetings of the Committee, at the rates allowed to the Members of the Representative Assembly, the charge being debited to the interest earnings of the General Muzrai Fund.

K. V. ANANTARAMAN,
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.